

JUDGING CARNIVOROUS PLANTS IN A PLANT SHOW

(by Judith B. Finn, Botanical Garden Asst. Manager, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720)

The Annual Flower Show has no entry qualifications and age is also not taken into account so there is thus quite a variation in horticultural skills. The plants are divided into groups according to genus. If people submit a large container or terrarium with differing family groups, we do not judge it as a whole, but judge the individual genus contained within.

Our first priority is excellence in plant growth. The *proper cultivation* which leads to the best looking specimen is regarded as the most important aspect. We do not judge *rarity* in plant species. This hopefully discourages people from "buying" an award, or taking endangered plant species from the wild, or possible theft from collections. This also allows anyone, who has the diligence to raise to perfection even the most common species, equal chance to

attain an award.

Because our judging is in August, we do not give special merit for a plant which happens to be in *flower*. The added beauty, though, probably adds a certain bias. The *size* of a plant is, also in itself, not considered an important point. If another smaller specimen of the same genus is more carefully cultivated it will be favored. When weighing the merits between two specimens, the *difficulty of cultivation* of one species over another is taken into consideration.

The following are some of the *points of cultivation* which we take into consideration:

The plant should have a certain symmetry unless that does not apply to a particular species.

The plants should be well groomed. The *dad foliage* should be eliminated and hopefully, no plant pathogens present—insect

THE DR. EDGAR T. WHERRY MEMORABILIA COLLECTION

Special Announcement *by Don Schnell*

There is a quite legitimate effort underway to collect and catalog any letters, other written material, slides, photographs and other memorabilia on Dr. Edgar T. Wherry. This project is being handled through the Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society, and all material will be housed in the Wherry Collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences where it would be available to students and researchers.

If you have such material in your files, or know of individuals or institutions that do, please contact Mr. Milton Laden at 334 Wellesley Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19119. They would like to receive such materials either in original form or as good quality copies. Mr. Laden would also appreciate

all ideas on expanding this collection, search and use of material.

I have already sent in all of the material published by and about Dr. Wherry in previous *CPN* issues, so that is taken care of. I also included some personal correspondence. Others of you may wish to include some of your own material.

The Collection has just acquired some 1,500 of Dr. Wherry's original glass plate slides, which include many of *Sarracenia*. These are being copied to modern 35mm format and sets will be suitably housed for inspection. The slides will also be cataloged for easy reference. I anticipate queries about sales of slides, but so far, there is no plan for this, since the original glass plates belong to Morris Arboretum.

pests, fungal spots, black sooty mold, etc. The growth medium should be neat—no slime mold, dead tips on live sphagnum, etc.

The container should be clean and in good condition—no chips, cracks, etc.

The plants should have been grown in the correct humidity so that there are no burnt tips. They should also have the correct sunlight so that if there should be color (red traps in venus fly traps) it is developed. If applicable, the plant should be compact and

not showing excessive elongation from too much shade. On the other extreme, there should be no evidence of burn damage.

We also observe whether a plant has been newly potted, which may indicate that it is a composite. Although this shows concern for presentation, it can also mask poor cultural practices.

This list of judging criteria was formulated by Daniel Campbell and myself. It is certainly open to revision and improvement. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

THE 1986 LIST OF CP BOOKS

Not available through CPN. Order directly from publisher or your local bookshop.

* = books intended primarily for children.

□ = Books out-of-print

1. Carnivorous Plants, Gordon Cheers, Globe Press, Melbourne, \$7.95.
2. Insectivorous Plants, Charles Darwin, AMS Press, 1893, 56 E. 13th St., N.Y., NY 10003, \$27.50, 1893 ed.
3. * Plants that Eat Insects: A Look At Carnivorous Plants, Anabel Dean, Lerner Publications, 1977, 241 First Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55401. \$5.95.
4. Plants of Prey in Australia, Rica Erickson, Univ. of W.A. Press, 1968, World Insectivorous Plants, 2130 Meadowind Ln., Marietta, GA 30062, Cloth, \$16.00.
- 5. * Animals & Plants That Trap, Phillip Goldstein, Holiday, 1974, Holiday House, Inc., 18 E. 53rd St., N.Y., NY 10022, \$5.95.
6. Nepenthes of Mt. Kinabalu (in English), Kurata, S., Sabah National Park, World Insectivorous Plants, 2130 Meadowind Ln., Marietta, GA 30062, \$7.00.
7. * Pitcher Plants, Carol Lerner, William Morrow & Co., N.Y. \$11.00.
8. Carnivorous Plants, Francis E. Lloyd, Peter Smith, 6 Lexington Ave., Magnolia, MA 01930, \$16.00, 1942 ed., paper \$7.95, Dover Publs., 31 E. 2nd St., Mineola, NY 11501.
9. The World of Carnivorous Plants, J. and P. Pietropaolo, R.J. Stoneridge, Peter Paul Nurseries, 1974, \$6.30.
- 10. * Insect-Eating Plants, L. and G. Poole, T.Y. Crowell, 1963, 666 Fifth Avenue, N.Y., NY 10003, \$4.50.
11. * Plants That Eat Animals, J.H. Prince, Lodestar Bks., 2 Park Ave., N.Y., NY 10016, \$8.95, 1979 ed.
12. CP of the U.S. and Canada, D.E. Schnell, John F. Blair, Publisher, 1976, 1406 Plaza Dr., SW, Winston-Salem, NC 27103, \$19.95 plus shipping, 1976 ed.
13. Carnivorous Plants, Randall Schwartz, Avon Books, 1975, 959 Eighth Ave., N.Y., NY 10019, soft cover \$1.25.
14. Pitcher Plants of Peninsular Malaysia & Singapore, Roger G. Shivas, Maruzen Asia Pte. Ltd., 51 Aver Rajah Crescent #07-09, Singapore 0513. \$9.80.
15. Carnivorous Plants, Adrian Slack, MIT Press, 1979, 28 Carleton St., Cambridge, MA 02142, \$28.00, 1980 ed., 1984 paper \$12.50.
- 16. Cultivating Carnivorous Plants, Allen Swenson, Doubleday & Co., 1977, Garden City, NY 11535, \$7.95.
- 17. * Carnivorous Plants, John F. Waters, Franklin Watts, Inc., 1974, 845 Third Avenue, N.Y., NY 10022, \$4.90.
18. * Carnivorous Plants, Cynthia Overbeck, Lerner Publications, 1982, 241 First Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55401, \$10.95.
19. * Secrets of the Venus's Fly Trap, Jerome Wexler, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1981, 79 Madison Ave., N.Y., NY 10016, \$8.95.